



July 2, 2007

To: Designated Sponsors of Trainee Programs

Subject: New Trainee and Intern Regulations – Procedures for Amending Current Designations to Meet New Regulatory Requirements.

The Department of State's Office of Exchange Coordination and Designation (ECA/EC) is pleased to announce the publication of an Interim Final Rule in the *Federal Register* on June 19, 2007. The Rule goes into effect on July 19, 2007. This Rule amends the current Trainee category regulations by eliminating the "specialty" and "non-specialty" occupational categories and creates a new Intern category (22 CFR 62.22).

As stated in the Proposed Rule, the new Intern Program was developed to provide foreign nationals a way to build practical skills that will enhance their future careers:



"By providing training opportunities for current foreign students and recent foreign graduates at formative stages of their development, the U.S. Government will build partnerships, promote mutual understanding, and develop networks for relationships that will last through generations as these foreign nationals move into leadership roles in a broad range of occupational fields in their own societies."

To find out more about the changes to the Trainee category and the new Intern category, please read the Interim Final Rule. A copy can be found on ECA/EC's website at: http://exchanges.state.gov/education/jexchanges/about/fr_pubs.htm.

The new regulations replace the existing training plan regulations by incorporating a new form: *Training/Internship Placement Plan (T/IPP) - Form DS-7002*. This Form is required for use in both Training and Internship programs. A copy of Form DS-7002 can be found on the Department's website at: <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/84240.pdf>

Guidance Concerning the July 19, 2007 Effective Date

Implementation of new requirements will be based on date of issuance of Form DS-2019 on or after July 19, 2007. The date of issuance will be noted in Box 7 of Form DS-2019.

		
BY THIS STATE	7. Jane Doe Name of Official Preparing Form	Alternate Responsible Officer Title
	123 Main St. Bigcity, TN 20001 Address of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer	111-111-1111 ext. 101 Telephone Number
	_____ Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer	07-19-2007 Date (mm-dd-yyyy) 
	_____ Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer	
OFFER OF PROGRAM Offer of this exchange visitor from program number _____ sponsored by _____ in conformity with the objectives of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended.		
_____ Signature of Officer		
Date (mm-dd-yyyy) of Signature		
ON OFFICER REGARDING SECTION 212(e) OF THE IMMI-GRATION AND NATURALIZATION ACT (See item 1(a) of page 2.)		
TRAVEL VALIDATION BY RESPONSIBLE OFFICER (Maximum validation period is one year*) *EXCEPT: Maximum validation period is up to six months for Short-term Scholars and four months for Camp Counselors and Summer Travel/Work. (1) Exchange Visitor is in good standing at the present time _____ Date (mm-dd-yyyy) _____ Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer (2) Exchange Visitor is in good standing at the present time _____ Date (mm-dd-yyyy) _____ Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer		
TO MAKE FINAL DETERMINATION REGARDING 212 (e) I agree with the statement on item 2 on page 2 of this document. _____ Place _____ Date (mm-dd-yyyy)		

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Sponsors may continue to issue Forms DS-2019 to potential trainees under current procedures prior to July 19th. Any Form DS-2019 issued on or after July 19th must follow the new requirements, including completing a Form DS-7002 to potential trainees or interns.

We are aware that many training programs have already been negotiated and some individual training programs in certain occupational categories, such as agriculture, will need to be amended to meet the new 12 month maximum duration requirement. Sponsors must ensure that trainees are informed of the new requirements and adjust the program costs and fees accordingly.

Action On Your Part Is Required

All sponsors must advise the Department, no later than August 31, 2007, which of the following options the sponsor elects based on your current designation:

• SPONSORS WITH SPECIALTY AND NON-SPECIALTY TRAINEE DESIGNATION

Because you are currently designated for trainee programs in both the specialty and non-specialty occupational categories, the Department assumes that you will want designation in both the Trainee and Intern categories. Each category will require a separate designation. The application fee will be waived for designated sponsors who are currently authorized both “specialty” and “non-specialty” occupations.

1. Submit a request in SEVIS for an Amendment of your program (Form DS-3036), checking the “Trainee” or “Intern” category. The submission of the amendment will enable the Department to remove the specialty and non-specialty training categories from your current program in SEVIS so they will no longer print on the Form DS-2019.

2. Submit a new application in SEVIS (Form DS-3036) for the other category, either “Trainee” or “Intern”. The directions for filing a new application can be found in the User Manual for Temporary Users of SEVIS.

http://exchanges.state.gov/education/jexchanges/about/sevis/manual_temp_122006.pdf.

NOTE: To assist the Department in expediting this amendment and new designation, sponsors must provide a complete set of program materials that conform to the new regulations. The necessary supporting documents are listed in the User Manual for Temporary Users of SEVIS at Section 2.8.5.3 - Training and Internship Programs.

• SPONSORS WITH SPECIALTY TRAINEE DESIGNATION.

1. Submit a request in SEVIS for an Amendment of your program (Form DS-3036) checking either the “Trainee” or “Intern” category.

Note: Only one category will be authorized

2. If you wish to have designation in both the Trainee and Intern categories, you must submit a new application for the category for which you did not seek the program amendment.

For example: You are designated for a Specialty Trainee program. You have reviewed the regulations and determined that your current exchange program best fits the new Trainee category. Submit a program Amendment in SEVIS for the Trainee category.

If you would like to be considered for program designation in both categories, you must submit a new “complete” application with the required application fee.

NOTE: A request for an Amendment or a new designation must be accompanied by a complete set of program materials that conform to the new regulations.

The directions for filing a new application can be found in the User Manual for Temporary Users of SEVIS located at:
http://exchanges.state.gov/education/jexchanges/about/sevis/manual_temp_122006.pdf.
The necessary supporting documents are listed in the Manual at Section 2.8.5.3 - Training and Internship Programs.

• SPONSORS WITH NON-SPECIALTY TRAINEE DESIGNATION.

1. Submit a request in SEVIS for an Amendment of your program (Form DS-3036) checking either the “Trainee” or “Intern” category.

Note: Only one category will be authorized

2. If you wish to have designation in both the Trainee and Intern categories, you must submit a new application for the category that you did not submit a program amendment. For example: You are designated for a Non-Specialty Trainee program. You have reviewed the regulations and determined that your current exchange program best fits the new Intern category. Submit a program Amendment in SEVIS for the Intern category.

If you would like to be considered for program designation in both categories, you must submit a new “complete” application with the required application fee.

NOTE: A request for an Amendment or a new designation must be accompanied by a complete set of program materials that conform to the new regulations.

The directions for filing a new application can be found in the User Manual for Temporary Users of SEVIS located at:
http://exchanges.state.gov/education/jexchanges/about/sevis/manual_temp_122006.pdf.
The necessary supporting documents are listed in the Manual at Section 2.8.5.3 - Training and Internship Programs.

Sponsors are to continue using their current designation in SEVIS until your application to amend your current training program has been reviewed and authorized in SEVIS.